

P.O. Box 212
Sun Valley, Idaho 83353

January 11, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

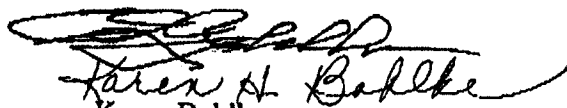
Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

This letter is to add my support to the Department of Justice and Microsoft settlement. I applaud the ending of what, to me, was a great injustice done to Mr. Gates. Mr. Gates is a very successful man, who created a very successful company. He has made a great deal of money, but he has given a great deal of money away. Mr. Gates is someone who this country should be very proud of; unfortunately, the petty jealousy of his competitors have accomplished what they could not do on their own - that of damaging both his company and him in an antitrust suit. The suit was settled, with Microsoft giving away far too much. What company would allow computer makers to configure their product to promote another product? This is what Microsoft has done, allowing computer makers to promote non-Microsoft software programs within Windows and even agreeing to design future software programs in a way as to make it easier for computer makers and programmers to promote non-Microsoft software. I wonder if any other firm in another industry would so willingly give away its secrets. Yet, Microsoft agreed to this in order to end the lawsuit, wanting to get on with business. I admire Microsoft for dealing with a very bad situation and trying to go forward, putting this case behind them. Which is why I am writing to ask that you do also.

Microsoft is but one of the thousands of companies that have made this country. He has merely succeeded too well. But I wonder what effect this lawsuit will have on future entrepreneurs, people who have a dream or vision of their own, but are afraid to pursue for fear of having the government breathing down their necks if they become too successful. It would be such a shame if we clip our children's wings even before they are given a chance to fly.

Support the agreement reached between the Department of Justice and Microsoft. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Karen Bohlke
Charles R. Bohlke

cc. Senator Larry Craig